

# THE MCGILL DAILY

VOLUME 85 • NUMBER 5

Struggling to be credit worthy since 1911

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1995

## Taking health care to the streets

BY ANDREA MASON

More than 12 000 angry demonstrators filled six blocks of Sherbrooke St. W. on Wednesday to protest Québec Health Minister Jean Rochon's proposal to close down the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The hospital staff and community members demanded that Rochon consider their position before making his final decision on September 19th.

The protesters followed a pipe band and waved placards saying "God Save the Queen Elizabeth," "Say yes to 100 more years of service," and "Jacques Parizeau can kiss my Yes goodbye."

Other demonstrators wheeled gurneys down the street and carried boxes of petitions signed by 135 000 people opposed to the Queen E. closure. The hospital is slated to be shut down in September 1996.

The crowd marched from the Girouard Park in NDG to the main entrance of the hospital on Marlowe Ave. Amid cheers from the demonstrators, Dr. Larry Lincoln, chairman of the hospital's action committee, delivered a message to Rochon: "This hospital is not going to close. One way or another, we're going to win this fight and if [Rochon] says no to us next week, we'll meet him in court."

The closure of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital is part of a cost-saving initiative which includes the elimination of seven hospitals in the Montréal area. The closures were prompted by a cut of \$190 million to the Montréal Regional Health Board's budget.

The amount of money that will be saved by closing the Queen E. is questionable. According to Steven Laudi of the NDG Community Council, "three-quarters of the salaries at the Queen E are guaranteed," regardless of the outcome.

This and the fact that the Queen E. has operated under budget for two successive years make the hospital seem an illogical target for Rochon's health service slashing.

The hospital's action committee put forward a counter-proposal as a cost-saving alternative to the Queen E. closure. Lincoln stated that the project would "bring together all the health care services to serve the community more efficiently and at a lower cost." According to Lincoln, the Minister did not respond to the proposal.

Rochon commented in Friday's *Gazette* that he was "very impressed" by the demonstration but unconvinced of the necessity to preserve the Queen E.

But no alternative health care plans have been implemented by the government to replace the care provided by the facilities slated for clo-



DAILY PHOTO BY DAVID RYHER

### NDG COMMUNITY PIPES UP SUPPORT FOR QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL

sure. Lincoln refers to Rochon's talk of alternatives such as CLSCs and out-patient surgery as a "con job" designed to placate the fears of anxious citizens.

Lincoln estimates that between 6 000 and 9 000 jobs will be lost as a result of the closure.

However the presence of hundreds of doctors, nurses, and support staff at the demonstration was largely to support the community's bid to save the hospital which has served them for 100 years. "My job is not the issue. It will be the community

that will suffer," said Lorraine Boyle, a nurse at the Queen E.

Should the hospital shut down according to Rochon's plan, there will be few alternatives for Queen E patients. Critics charge that the remaining Montréal hospitals are already overburdened and will have no room to accommodate the influx of additional patients.

This is of significant concern to the community's older residents who account for 18 per cent of the NDG population. "Patients have started to cry in my office," said Dr. Avram

Whiteman, of the Queen E's family medicine unit.

McGill's Faculty of Medicine has provided minimal support in the campaign to save the Queen E. An associate professor from the McGill faculty who wished to remain anonymous said that the closure was approved by McGill. They said the faculty supported the Health Board's initiative in order to spare its own larger institutions. This will be at the expense of many students, staff, and alumni who rely on the Queen E for health services.

## Community rallies to save the Queen Elizabeth hospital

The local residents who participated in the protest ranged in age from young children to the elderly and represented a wide variety of ethnic origins. All expressed fear and anger at the prospect of losing the hospital which has served them faithfully. Many of the demonstrators take comfort in the familiarity of the hospital where they can count on doctors who know them by their first names and take a genuine interest in their well-being.

Harold Vaage has been going to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for the last 45 years. "All four of my children were born there. Presently my wife is there, having just had surgery," he explained. "We feel very strongly that the hospital should remain open."

## NEED A LOAN?

BY ZACHARY SCHWARTZ

Ask not what your country can do for you - ask your bank. As of August 1, students receiving Canada Loans will have to do just that: answer directly to the private banks and not to the federal government.

In a change seen by most student groups as "a dangerous step in the wrong direction," the federal government has handed over its responsibilities of both guaranteeing and collecting Canada Student Loans.

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) fears that giving so much power to the banks will limit accessibility, since banks will only finance those students with a higher chance of paying off their loans.

"Your accessibility will be determined by what you study, who you are, or where you come from," says CFS Québec Chairperson Gilbert Cabana. "It's the same as when you buy insurance: they have their models that determine what you'll pay [based on] actuarial studies showing

who will pay back."

Until now, the federal government dealt with defaults itself and was in charge of collecting repayments. Under the new system, the banks will do both.

Nick Benedict, VP external of McGill's Undergraduate Students' Society (SSMU), has also expressed concern over this trend of transferring power to commercial institutions.

"The government is abdicating its responsibilities to post-secondary education...The banks might start saying 'it's time for us to have a certain voice in who we give our loans to.' I'm extremely suspicious when you start giving power to banks," explains Benedict.

Robert Swick, VP external of McGill's Post-Graduate Students' Society (PGSS), feels that giving the banks more power over student loans is dangerous, because their concern is profit.

"They're not evil," says Swick, "but the banks are not interested in

## Banks take over student loans ...HOW'S YOUR CREDIT RATING?

educating anybody's country. [Putting the banks in charge of guaranteeing and collecting student loans] is what looks like a small step, but in principle it's very big."

Swick points out that these changes were put in place by the government this summer, while most students were on vacation. It's what Cabana calls "a classic tactic" to avoid student outcry.

When asked what they are doing about these changes to the loan program, the two national groups representing McGill suggested that, since the changes are already in place, little can be done to reverse them.

Instead, the CFS, which represents McGill's PGSS, is focusing on the bigger picture, fighting funding cuts to the federal government's transfer payments for health and social services.

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, of which the SSMU is a member, is busy launching its "Real Choices" campaign, informing the

government of alternative approaches to handling the funding of post-secondary education.

Both approaches deal with the faltering government support for post-secondary education but neither specifically address the changes to the loan program.

In Québec, which opted out of the Canada Student Loan Program, student loans are still guaranteed by the provincial government. What is needed, according to student groups, are specific commitments and regulations, outlining that eligibility for loans will not be determined by the banks.

"So far, I have been assured that there is no danger of allowing the banks...a say in evaluating loan applications, but no one really knows," says Benedict. "In any case, it won't happen in the next year or two."

"We haven't heard the last of this," maintains Cabana, referring to the government's trend of shuffling responsibility to private banks. "They'll keep trying it on a gradual level."



Association des Étudiant-e-s  
Diplômé-e-s Employé-e-s à McGill

# agsem BBQ!

Association of Graduate Students  
Employed at McGill

Thursday  
September 21  
The Three Bares  
12:00 until 3:00 pm

All TA's and demonstrators  
welcome. Free food, beer and  
other beverages. Lower campus,  
just south of the arts building.

**FINE PAKISTANI CUISINE**  
AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE

**KARACHI PALACE**  
Montreal

**10% student discount** Mon-Fri 2pm-6pm

**BUFFET STYLE**  
8 Choice Vegetarian Platter \$3.99  
Chicken or Beef \$4.99 (9 choices)

**Doorstep of the university.**  
20/20 University  
281-1697

**Extra Special**  
**SALON RALPH**  
Women's & Men's Hair Stylists

**Perm \$25**  
with coupon

Shampoo, cut,  
wash, & blow dry  
\$10 for him \$15 for her

**680 Sherbrooke**  
(corner University, next to McGill)

**844-9688** \*SPECIALS  
WITH THIS AD

## Student Banking Just Got Better!



### Well Worth Studying!

#### TD STUDENT PLAN\*

All the convenience of round-the-clock self-service banking –  
for only \$2.50 a month!

- Unlimited withdrawals, deposits and payments via The Green Machine® and unlimited withdrawals from our Green Fast Cash® machines. No extra charge!
- A TD Green® Visa† or GM Visa† Card! No annual fees!
- Pay bills, check balances by phone via Bankline®. No extra charge!
- Plus many more services.

Get better student banking right away! For more information visit any TD Branch, visit our award winning web site:  
<http://www.tdbank.ca/tldbank> or call toll-free: The Green Infoline® in Toronto (416)982-7730  
in Quebec 1-800-387-1500 from other parts of Canada 1-800-387-2092.



Your Bank. Your Way.®

### Money To Learn!

#### TD STUDENT LINE®

Offered in conjunction with TD Student Plan, TD Student Line  
is a line of credit designed to help you finance your education!

- Full-time students can qualify for up to \$5,500 per year, part-time up to \$2,750 per year.
- Pay interest only on what you use!
- Overdraft Protection<sup>1</sup> of \$500, with no monthly fee during studies.

### SPECIAL ISSUES 95/96

**The Future of  
Quebec**

OCTOBER 23

**Lesbian, Gay,  
Bisexual and  
Transgender  
issues**

NOVEMBER 13

**Term End**

DECEMBER 7

**Black History  
Month**

FEBRUARY 5

**Women's Week**

MARCH 11

**Year End**

APRIL 11

Ad deadlines for  
term and year end  
issues are 5 days  
before publication.  
All other special  
issues—2 days  
before publication.

**398-6790**



# LETTERS

## More on IGLC

### TO THE DAILY,

I am writing in response to your "Frats Again" article (September 11) to clarify my position on the vote taken last week during the SSMU meeting. According to your article and as reported in your paper, I supposedly did not know which stand to take on the IGLC issue. This was not the case. Those who know me realise only too well that I do take a decisive stand on all issues and am never afraid to voice my opinions clearly. Unfortunately, in this case, David D'Andrea, the reporter of the article, misinterpreted my actions and then printed them as fact. I misunderstood the vote being called and, realising I would be counted incorrectly, I lowered my hand to then correctly vote on the issue as I saw it. It is a shame that the reporter did not ask me what actually happened instead of printing what he thought. I believe that substantiated factual reporting would lend more credibility to

an article and to the *Daily* as a whole.

**VALÉRIE PANET-RAYMOND**  
SUS REPRESENTATIVE TO  
SSMU

### TO THE DAILY,

Does the *McGill Daily* support monopolies or not? Your hypocrisy in the September 11 issue should make every student wonder.

The issue begins with a front-page report criticising the telephone monopoly set up in McGill residences. Then on page 17, the *Daily* resumes its historical obsession of promoting the IGLC (Inter-Greek Letter Council) as a monopoly which controls the "Greek System" at McGill.

The latter report describes the IGLC as "the umbrella group that represents sororities and fraternities," a myth that even the IGLC renounced before the SSMU Judiciary Board last March.

Although the *Daily* would make it seem that the IGLC is the only choice for students interested in the benefits of the Greek

system, they should know by now that this is a lie. After all, the *Daily* has been corrected on this misconception at least 7 times in the past 4 years!

Referring to SSMU Activities Night, the *Daily* reports that "fraternities and sororities... [have been] shut out of the Students' Society activities for more than five years." That's funny to hear, especially since Phi Delta Epsilon has had a table at Activities Night for the past 3 years! In fact there are dozens of professional, honorary, and services "Greek" organizations that are co-educational and would be welcome at Activities Night.

Why does the *McGill Daily* continue to help the IGLC by portraying it as a monopoly on campus? By doing so, the *Daily* is actually favouring the IGLC and the SOCIAL fraternities and sororities it represents. At the same time, the *Daily* is impeding the development of non-discriminating professional and honorary Greek organizations by denying their very existence.

The only logical conclusion to

draw is that the *Daily* is in fact a staunch supporter of the IGLC and its member groups.

**CARYN NARVEY**  
U2 SCIENCE

## Cola conundrum

### To the Daily,

As the student "leaders" to whom you despairingly refer to in your September 11 "article" (re: Coca-Cola donation) we object to your complete misrepresentation of fact.

Firstly, you claim that McGill signed with Pepsi and abandoned Coca-Cola. This is not true. McGill remains a Coca-Cola customer. The Students' Society of McGill signed with Pepsi.

Second, the memo sent by Helena Myers to the FBC to which you refer to, did not, as you imply, "urge the Food and Beverage Committee" to "knuckle down in view of Coke's Largess." This is completely untrue. The Students' Society was unaware of the Coca-Cola donation until early August. At this time Helena Myers was contact-

ed by the Dean of Students informing her of Coca-Cola's donation. As Helena Myers is the elected president of the Students' Society, she was the one to whom this information was given. Committed to openness and in an attempt to keep all people informed, Helena Myers then forwarded this information to all relevant people within the Students' Society.

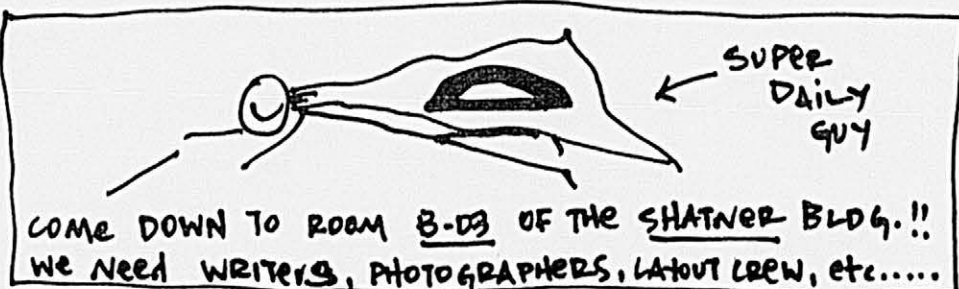
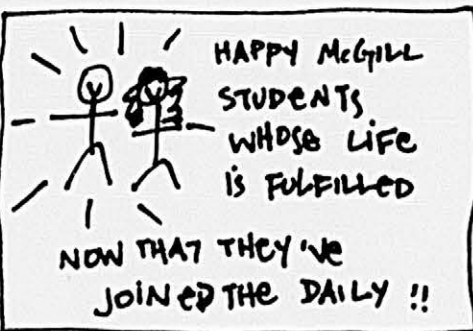
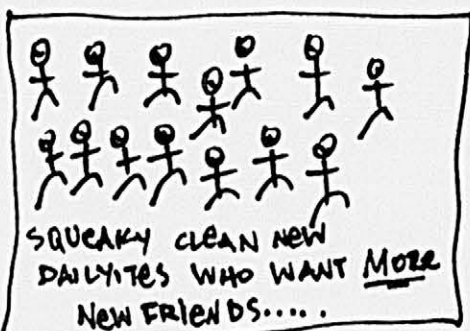
Your blatant attempt to embarrass student "leaders" (as you write) at the expense of the truth only demonstrates your lack of informed reporting. It is therefore not surprising to find no by-line on the story.

**JEN HARDING, VP INTERNAL**  
**HELENA MYERS, PRESIDENT**  
**KELLY REMAI, VP FINANCE**  
**PETER MAZOFF, FOOD AND BEVERAGE COMMISSIONER**

### ED. NOTE:

*The Daily regrets the error; the new Pepsi contract was, in fact, signed by the Students' Society. However, the Daily stands behind the rest of the story.*

## COME JOIN THE DAILY!



## We NEED YOU !!



The following is the remainder of Jason Kleine's article, "Time is money: Charging for modem access to begin October 1" printed in the September 14 edition of the *Daily Culture*. The *Daily* regrets the error.

For the most part, student response to the modem charges has been that it is a necessary evil and that it will provide better service. Remy Indebetouw, a Physics student, said "I don't really mind this, but last year I had a lot of trouble [dialing] in. If I continue to get busy signals, then I'm going to be unhappy about it and start to complain."

Ridgley points out that "this is a small change, and in a year it will be mostly forgotten. We will get used to it, just like we got used to the outrageous photocopy charges at the library or the lineups at financial aid. It's just another miserable but bearable characteristic of a university without money."

"Sure, it sucks that we have to pay for modem usage after a point. But it's not the CC's fault. Everybody is feeling the pinch, and this is just one way the CC is trying to make ends meet — without giving us busy signals."

## Erratum

SINCE 1911

THE MCGILL DAILY  
VOL. 85 • NO. 5

**Editorial Offices:**  
3480 McTavish St., Montréal, Qc.,  
room B-03, H3A 1X9

**Business & Advertising Office:**  
3480 McTavish St., Montréal, Qc.,  
room B-07, H3A 1X9

**editorial:** (514) 398-6784  
**business/advertising:**  
(514) 398-6790  
**fax:** (514) 398-8318

**co-ordinating editor:** M-J Milloy  
**co-ordinating news editor:** Robin Perelle  
**news editors:** Anup Grewal, Jacqueline Reis, —  
**culture editors:** Kevin Siu  
**features editor:** Idella Sturino  
**science editor:** Derek Fung  
**layout & design co-ordinators:**  
Klara Banaszak, —  
**daily français:** Anne Caporal, Afim León  
**photo editors:** Cameron Booth, David Ryther  
**liaison editor:** Ryan Fitzgerald  
**office co-ordinator:** —

### contributors:

Zachary Schwartz, Oren Grunbaum, Andrea Mason, Arafat Valiani, Katherine Laxer, Desiree LaFontaine, Hypatia Francis, Peder Nestingen

**business manager:** Marian Schrier  
**assistant business manager:**  
Jo-Anne Pickel

**advertising managers:**  
Boris Shedov, Letty Matleo  
**advertising layout & design:**  
Robert Costain

All contents ©1995 **Daily Publications Society**. All rights reserved. The content of this newspaper is the responsibility of the McGill Daily and does not necessarily represent the views of McGill University or the Students' Society of McGill University. Products or companies advertised in this newspaper are not necessarily endorsed by the Daily staff. Printed by Interhauf Developments Inc., Montréal, Québec. The Daily is a founding member of Canadian University Press, Presse étudiante du Québec, and Publi-Peq.

Printed on 20% recycled paper.  
ISSN 1192-4608



# HOUSING COALITION SAYS SOVEREIGNTY COULD HELP

BY ANUP GREWAL

Fed up with the policies of the federal government, the largest coalition of social housing groups in Montréal has thrown its weight behind the 'yes' side for the upcoming Québec referendum.

Last Monday the Front d'action populaire en réaménagement urbain (Frapru) held a demonstration at the Montréal headquarters of the federal Liberal party.

"Québec has never received its fair share of social housing funds from the federal government," claimed Francois Saillant, co-ordinator of Frapru.

Presenting the Liberals with a gigantic invoice for \$950 million to be paid in 45 days, Saillant called the move "a demonstration of our anger at the federal government — that no one finds [the social housing] situation acceptable."

The coalition claimed that there has been a steady decline in federal commitment to low-income housing in Canada over the last 10 years and that this decline has been felt in Québec in particular.

Low income housing in Canada has traditionally been funded primarily by the federal government, with the provinces and municipalities pitching in what they can.

But starting with the Mulroney government in 1984, every federal budget has reduced the funds allocated to low-income housing. In 1993, Mulroney announced a freeze on funds for new social housing units effective January 1994.

According to Saillant, Québec has been hardest hit by the cuts as the home of 30 per cent of the nation's poor. He claimed that if you add up the last five years' worth of low-income housing need in Québec, the federal govern-

ment owes the province between \$600 and \$950 million. Saillant went on to say that

sovereignty in the referendum.

"The possibility for reform

ment to low-income housing is not much better than that of the federal government.

Alper explained that the PQ promised to create 1 500 new low-income housing units during last year's provincial election. Once in power, however, they changed the numbers to 1 200 — with only 300 new units for Montréal this year.

According to Alper, the cuts pose a problem because there are already more than 200 000 tenant households in Québec that spend more than 50 per cent of their total income on rent.

"People are paying too much for sub-standard housing while there are fewer chances for low-cost housing," said

er speculated that this year's housing project is "just a one time shot," as the PQ may have wanted "to appear sensitive to low-income people" at the time of the last election.

Considering these facts, Alper warned that it is important to remember the nuances of Frapru's position, as the coalition avoided giving the PQ its unconditional support. "The referendum is not an end in itself," stated Saillant.

Frapru's position paper, the Dossier Noir, states "Sovereignty cannot just be a project by Jacques Parizeau, Lucien Bouchard, and Mario Dumont," and maintains that sovereignty must be an instrument by which people of all social sectors work for a "profound transformation of society."

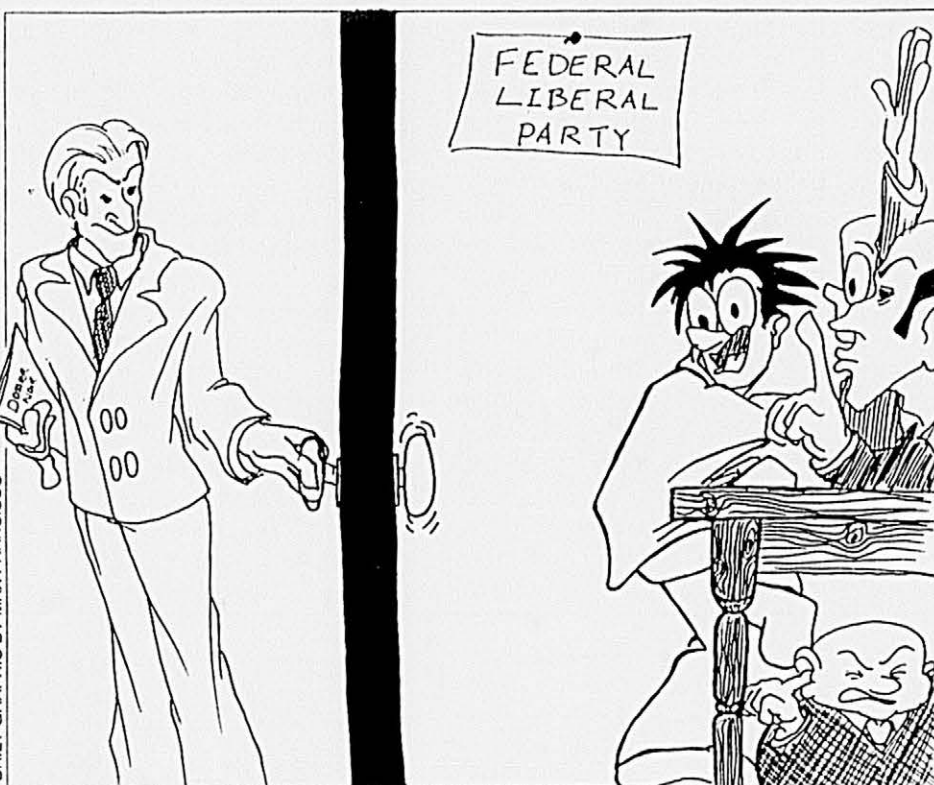
But according to Saillant, "the chances for reform in an independent Québec are more favourable" because the "federal system just does not work."

Alper elaborated on this statement, explaining that because the PQ wants to seem like a social democratic party, it is "more susceptible to pressure from the streets" than the federal government is.

Frapru, according to Alper, has realised that "the only thing to move the PQ is a real social movement from the streets."

However, Alper remained pessimistic, saying that after the referendum, the PQ will show that it is as "neo-liberal" as all the other governments.

He warned that soon the PQ will "issue a whole slew of new cuts [in social programs]...The hospital closures are just the tip of the iceberg."



Jean Chrétien has "done nothing" since becoming prime minister two years ago — despite his denunciations of the Mulroney policy while leader of the Liberal Opposition.

In fact, Chrétien has continued to cut the country's low-income housing programmes. Last year, Federal Housing Minister David Dingwall persuaded six out of the 10 provinces to raise the rents on low-cost housing. Québec was one of the four that did not comply with Dingwall's proposal.

Earlier this year, in Finance Minister Paul Martin's budget, \$307 million more was cut from the federal government's low-income housing funds.

Saillant argued that the federal government's attacks on low-income housing are "just one example of the many injustices" Québec faces under the federal government.

With this "overwhelming negative evidence" against the federal government, Saillant said Frapru could draw only one conclusion: support

in the federal structure is not there," Saillant asserted.

## But will the PQ do any better?

David Alper, community organiser at Multi-Caf in Cote des Neiges, which is a member of Frapru, does not support Frapru's position.

"I would agree that the federal government is not doing enough for Québec, but the cuts are happening all over Canada, not just in Québec," he observed.

Alper suggested that while "we cannot let the federal government forget its responsibility," there are things the province can do on its own.

He cited the example of the former NDP government in Ontario. Alper said that the NDP built over 10 000 new units of public housing last year using only provincial money. "It just goes to show where there is a will there is a way," said Alper.

According to Alper, the PQ has not shown this will. He insisted that the PQ's commit-

ment to low-income housing is not much better than that of the federal government.

## No help from the city

Alper also pointed out that it is important to look at the community's commitment to low-income housing as well. "Montréal is not doing much," he stated.

The Bourque administration is not keen on social housing and recently abolished the largest housing corporation in the city. Alper said City Council is hiding behind the 300 new units promised by the province. "But that is a provincial commitment. What will happen if the PQ cuts that too?" Alper asked.

The PQ has already refused to commit itself to low-income housing next year. In fact, Alp-

## Monday, September 18

- The McGill Women's Union's first general meeting. Rm 423, Shatner Building, 17h.
- The SSMU Environmental Committee's first meeting, Shatner cafeteria, 16h. call 398-3010 ext. 0513.
- Québec Public Interest Group (QPIRG) holds BBQ on rain date. Three Bares, 11h-15h. call 398-7432.

## Tuesday, September 19

- The Latin American Awareness Group meets in B10, Shatner Building, 18h. Jorge Gerre of the Hispanic Congress and a representative of the Cuban Youth Tour will speak.

## Wednesday, September 20

- Québec Interest Research Group (QPIRG) holds general interest meeting in Union 107/108 at 18h.
- The United Zionist Council presents a lecture by William Ochan Ajjugo on "The War in Sudan and African Liberation." Stewart Biology Building, rm S 1/3, 15h30. Call 284-6884.
- McGill Students for the No Campaign holds its first meeting, 15h-17h in the Shatner Building (ask for room number at the front desk). Everyone interested in the referendum campaign is welcome.

EVENTS CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## The McGill Legal Information Clinic would like you to know that...

### CHEATING

includes

- giving information to someone else during an exam
- handing in the same essay twice (even if you've reworked it - get permission from your prof!)
- submitting work with fake footnotes or fake facts
- pretending to be someone else for an exam, or having someone write an exam for you (note: this is a criminal offence as well).

**IF YOU HAVE BEEN ACCUSED OF CHEATING  
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO COUNSEL AT ALL  
STAGES OF THE INVESTIGATION**



"If you need us, we'll be there."

Shatner Basement (B-16)

10-5 Monday-Friday 398-6792



## great research...

Kaplan spends over \$3 million annually developing products and researching the tests. We've proved that we know the tests inside out.

**LSAT**

In 1992, Kaplan predicted the elimination of an LSAT question type and changed our course in anticipation of the change.

**GRE**

In 1993, the ETS was forced to withdraw a GRE question type because Kaplan "broke the code."

**GMAT**

In 1994, Kaplan research brought to light security flaws in the computer-based GRE tests. As a result, the ETS temporarily pulled the test.

**MCAT**

**SAT**

## great results.

Kaplan's expertise translates into higher scores and greater confidence for our students. Put our research to work for you on test day.

1-800-667-TEST

287-1896

get a higher score

**KAPLAN**

## THE MCGILL DAILY

*"Easier to find than ever!"*

*tour our subterranean hideaway*

EDITORIAL B-03  
ADVERTISING B-07

STUDENT UNION  
BUILDING 3480 McTAVISH  
STREET MONTREAL  
398-6784

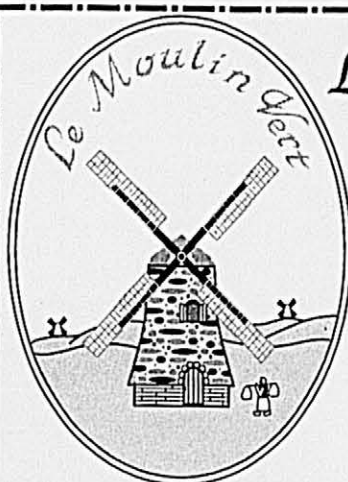


HÔPITAL ROYAL VICTORIA  
ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL

**SPERM DONORS NEEDED**  
**\$ FEE GIVEN \$**

For use in artificial insemination program. Must be healthy, between 18-40 yrs, must pass screening tests.

For info call: 843-1650



**Le Moulin Vert**

GOURMET SANDWICHES

**15% savings for**  
**McGill Students & Staff**

(With this coupon and ID.)

Cannot be combined with other specials or promotions.

Expires Sept 21/95



Les Cours Mont-Royal  
1455 Peel St.  
844-9757

Owned by McGill graduates

Our Specialties are served with your choice of Salad or Fruits.

Croque Monsieur: smoked ham, smoked gruyère on crusty white bread. Grilled.....\$3.73

Le Californien: smoked turkey on rye bread.....\$4.25

L'Italien: Prosciutto, light Provolone cheese on pumpernickle bread.....\$4.25

L'Original: Roast Beef, New Zealand Edam cheese on Kaiser bun. Grilled.....\$4.25

Le Moulin Vert: French Brie on baguette.....\$4.85

**CARLOS & PEPES Pub**

Thanks Montreal  
for voting us the best  
Mexican Restaurant  
and the best  
Happy Hour too!  
4-7pm & 11pm-2am  
7 days a week  
-1995



**CARLOS & PEPES**

1420 Peel

2 doors above Ste. Catherine

**2nd FLOOR PUB**

2 TACOS 99¢ (SUN-MON)

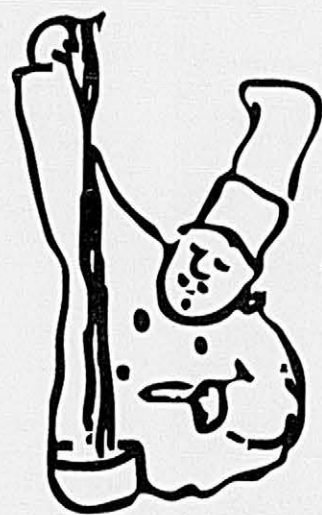
LOONIE NIGHT TUESDAY

LADIES NIGHT WEDNESDAY

9:30-11:00

**Amelio's**

Pizza  
Spaghetti  
Subs



A McGill  
Tradition

Near campus  
One location only!  
201 Milton (corner Ste-Famille)

Restaurant Hours:  
Mon - Friday: 11:30 am to 10 pm  
Sat & Sun: 4 pm to 10 pm

Free Delivery to McGill  
campus and residences

**845-8396**



# WHAT DO THEY MEAN FOR THE FUTURE OF THE PARTY?

# NDP holds first leadership

BY RYAN FITZGERALD

"This has really been a long time coming... we all realised a change of direction was needed," confided NDP leadership candidate and former Nova Scotia party leader Alexa McDonough.

cial party status in the House of Commons.

By the summer of 1993 the federal party was \$3 million in debt. More than a quarter of its members had dropped from party rolls.

lead the party into the next election.

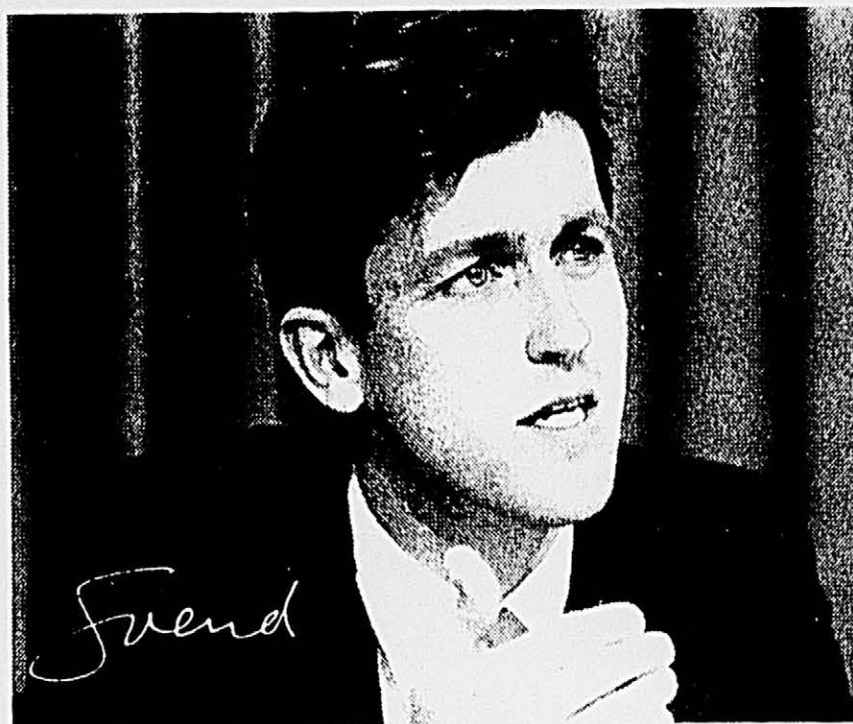
"This isn't an easy time to be a New Democrat; our opportunity is to re-evaluate and re-establish ourselves. Confident leadership is fundamental," she said.

through a uniquely American system: the leadership primaries.

Even before McLaughlin stepped down earlier this year, party faithfuls began re-evaluating the leadership selection process. McLaughlin was criticized for indifferent and unaccountable leadership, prompting party rank-and-file to pressure for more input in the selection process. The American primary system was chosen for its democratic nature and participation-intensive organisation.

## NDP primaries

**"...this primary offers the best chance we have to earn a mandate from Canadians in years... may also be one way of failing federal campaign away from fading of national party," said leadership candidate Lorne Nystrom, a former MP from Yorkton, Saskatchewan.**



## Towards a renaissance of the left

Hours earlier, in his opening address to the candidate meeting audience, Svend Robinson, McDonough's most significant opponent, urged the party against reading its recent misfortunes as a sign to follow the Liberals into the centre. The Burnaby-Kingsway MP from British Columbia believes a lack of principled leadership side-tracked the party.

"That has always

principles before power and people before profits. Our future lies in providing a real alternative to the right-wing agenda," Robinson said.

Candidate Lorne Nystrom, a former MP from Yorkton, Saskatchewan, echoed the urgency of Robinson's call. He believes the times call for the NDP to reassert and contrast its values with those of the right, committing itself as a credible alternative to the Liberal party. He also recognizes the necessity of party renewal.

"The New Democratic Party faces an historic opportunity in federal politics — this primary offers us the best chance we've had to earn a mandate from Canadians in years."

"We may also be one weak, failing federal campaign away from fading out as a national party," Nystrom added.

Fraser Green, the secretary of the federal NDP, agrees that the current crisis is an opportunity for the "birth of a left-wing renaissance."

"We have to rebuild this party with a focus on leadership. The federal New Democratic Party is hoping reinvention is the first step towards recovery," he said last April in a statement announcing the adoption of the primary system.

With its grassroots approach and decentralized organisation, Fraser thinks the political primary contest can revive declining interest in the NDP.

In April 1995, Green announced that Audrey McLaughlin's successor as party leader would be chosen

We were talking in an empty hallway of the Centre St. Pierre on Penet St., across from the Radio-Canada building. It was late on August 30, almost an hour after a televised candidate meeting introduced McDonough and opposing candidates Lorne Nystrom, Svend Robinson and Herschel Hardin, who squared off in Canada's first ever leadership primary. McDonough was quick to point out the promise of the new system.

"There was, really, a crisis after Audrey [McLaughlin, former federal NDP leader] left... people were feeling hurt and alienated. I think this primary system is part of the healing process."

The Québec NDP's September 8 federal leadership primary, the first of its kind in Canada, marked an historic moment in Canadian left politics. In many ways the new system symbolised the beginning of a new chapter for the federal NDP: the first steps toward rebuilding a national party.

## And rebuild it must

In the October 1993 federal election, popular support for Canada's traditional third party dropped to almost five percent of the voting population. The NDP was reduced to a nine MP rump, losing for the first time in decades offi-

Marginalised federally, the party was also suffering provincially. The failure of Premier Rae's administration in Ontario was a decisive blow, and expected reverses to the British Columbia NDP government threaten to slide the party into electoral oblivion.

Since the 1993 election, two years of internal dissension and ideological drifting has left the party's direction in question and its confidence shaken. NDP members and sympathizers alike were forced into a reassessment of the purpose and future of the NDP in Canadian politics.

McDonough looked across the room at the other candidates and

**"There was, really, a crisis after Audrey [McLaughlin, former federal NDP leader] left... people were feeling hurt and alienated. I think this primary system is part of the healing process," NDP leadership candidate and former Nova Scotia party leader Alexa McDonough.**

smiled. Come October 15, the last night of the national convention, one of them will take up the reigns and





# ip primaries

change. We cannot allow ourselves to drift to the centre, we have to stand apart," he said after the televised candidate panel in August.

His strong local media presence and well known stance on high-publicity issues made him a favourite with local party members. As a five time winner of his riding, he has a proven organisation and an enviable personal charisma. His reputation precedes him as the party's most outspoken advocate of gay rights and the environment.

But Robinson still has to prove that he is capable of being a team player. Many of his most salient policies, such as his stand with the Liberal party on gun-control, have cast doubts on his ability to be accommodating to party consensus.

Because he is assured victory in the BC primary and will probably score well in the Ontario and Prairie primary, Robinson left Québec as the candidate to beat.

The distant second went to Nystrom, the former NDP MP from Saskatchewan

and longtime policy war-horse for the party's traditional farm and labour segment. After a quarter of a century in office, Nystrom was unceremoniously booted from his riding.

His strength in the national organisation, however, and his solid legislative record give him support in central Canada, where most of the national delegates are from.

McDonough, handicapped in the Québec candidate meeting by her

struggling command of the French language, was left second last in the Québec vote. But she will likely secure the Atlantic primary with her 14 years as its most visible leader. Whereas Robinson is seen as a political maverick, McDonough is seen as most likely to provide the kind of consensus forming

needed to heal rifts in the party.

If she is to make a serious run at Robinson, however, McDonough will have to prove her patient and compassionate disposition can translate into electoral gains.

Rounding out the bottom was Vancouver writer and social critic Herschel Hardin. The author of *A Nation Unaware: The Canadian Economic Culture* and several other examinations of Canadian identity, private enterprise and media, Hardin represents the radical socialist fringe of the party, which is trying to pull mainstream democratic socialism toward the left.

## Primaries to stretch into October

The modified American primary system has been split amongst five regional primaries and one labour primary.

This week Atlantic Canada will hold its own regional primary, followed by the British Columbia primary and then the Ontario primary on September 22. On October 7 the traditional NDP heartland of the Prairie provinces will weigh in with its 35 000 eligible delegates, almost half of the party's total membership.

All 80 000 party members are eligible to vote in their regional primary. In addition, over 200 000 affiliated union members will vote in a three-part labour primary. This began September 10 with a Canadian Auto Workers primary handing a victory to Robinson. It will be followed by elections in the Canadian Labour Congress.

The final step in the primary process will be at the national convention, to be held in Ottawa from October 12 to 15. That will be a run-off election amongst those candidates who win a primary or secure over 15 per cent of the total votes cast.

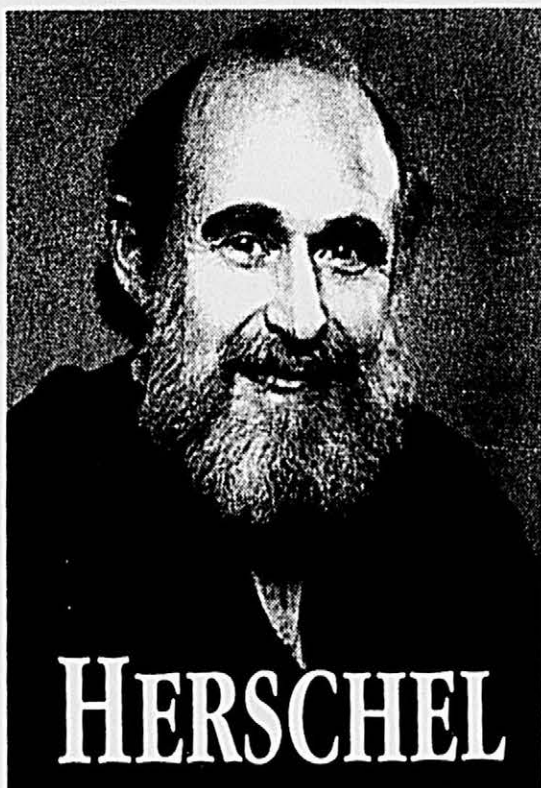
Green commented that deciding to hold the first primary in Québec was an obvious choice.

"Québec is our own New Hampshire," Green told the *Globe & Mail* just before the initial pri-

mary, referring to the tiny U.S. state which traditionally holds the American presidential system. The NDP has never had the strength in Québec that it enjoyed in the rest of Canada, and thus has the smallest pool of delegates. Candidates are hoping to use the Québec primary to build publicity before the later, more important ones.

The NDP has become a muffled voice in Parliament since it lost status as an official party back in 1993. Robinson sees the new primary process as a golden opportunity for the NDP to regain its presence in the public eye and position itself to become a significant force in post-Québec referendum federal politics.

"This is where we need to start: here at the local level, reaffirming our democratic spirit. Our strength has always come from the people, from the grassroots," Robinson said just before leaving the St. Pierre Centre that night.



HERSCHEL



Alexa

# In defense of Students protest Gillette's animal testing

By ARAFAAT VALIANI

A small group of students turned Campus Fest into campus unrest last Monday with a peaceful protest of Gillette's continued use of animal testing procedures. The protest took place just outside the Gillette tent set up on lower campus as part of Campus Fest.

Marc Muri of McGill Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (META) said that, despite alternatives to animal testing, like tissue/cell culture testing and computer simulations, Gillette persists in inhumane tests on animals to measure its products' performance.

Most of the multi-billion dollar consumer cosmetic industry has already opted for alternative testing practices. Muri alleged that, although the president of the Benetton clothing company personally urged Gillette's president to stop its animal testing practices, the company has refused to stop.

Covert research done by a Gillette employee in Rockville, Maryland revealed the company's use of Draize testing, a process that usually involves no pain-killers and tests products on forcibly exposed rabbit tissue. Also, a test known as the LD50 test, which is criticised by members of the scientific community, is being used to measure toxicity of Gillette aerosol deodorants and hair spray products by forcing rats to inhale their fumes. The experiment does not end until 50 per cent of the population is destroyed.

META member Vanessa Flannery asserted that "evidence of Gillette's activities can be seen in the undercover documentation and the fact that Gillette refuses to allow people to inspect their laboratory activities."

David Fausch, Gillette's vice-president of public relations, claims that Gillette has not used the LD50 test since 1977. However, according to minutes from a July 25, 1985 meeting, staff and administrators re-iter-

ated the need to "modify internal documentation and other communication vehicles to eliminate any references to the use of the term LD50."

Despite a written denial of the use of "the classical Draize test" by Douglass Kenney, Gillette's manager of corporate communications, one of Gillette's own animal technicians has revealed the continued insertion of Liquid Paper into rabbits' eyes for the purpose of measuring the product's toxicity, according to literature distributed by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA).

"It has been proven that cosmetic animal testing can be up to 20 per-cent less effective than non-animal alternatives. Despite anyone's position on testing within the research community, it must be acknowledged that cosmetic testing is needless in its effectiveness and by the mere fact that it is discontinued by other companies," said META member Rebecca Aldworth.

Muri considered the decision to allow Gillette on campus irresponsible and called on McGill students to boycott all Gillette products. Muri contends that "the company's purpose for being on campus lies in securing consumers by introducing students to their products at an early stage."

The protesters not only had to deal with Gillette's presence, but also continual harassment by McGill security. Apparently, security warned the students to leave on three separate occasions, one time threatening to call the police. The protesters informed security of the students' rights to protest by showing them sections of the student handbook. Security persisted with the harassment, forcing the students to seek the aid of a McGill legal student and to fax pages from the student handbook to Steve Paquin, assistant head of security, in order to be able to protest peacefully.



# Spraying the town green

## Bourque takes two months to report on Montréal's pesticide use

BY ANUP GREWAL

After months of dodging the issue of pesticide use in Montréal, Mayor Pierre Bourque finally issued a two page statement at last week's council meeting.

However, Samuel Boskey, an opposition councillor, said the statement was "not adequate."

"It is frustrating," remarked Boskey, "because Bourque says he is an environmentalist, but it takes him two months to answer [questions on pesticide use], and when he did, he didn't fully open up."

### Calling Bourque's bluff

Boskey's comments reflect the general frustration of many councillors and citizens who witnessed the pesticide saga unfold over the summer.

Eleven-year-old Jean Dominic Lévesque-René brought the issue to the forefront in June by asking Bourque to create a by-law against pesticides and herbicides. Lévesque-René has Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma, a cancer linked to 2,4-D, an agent found in Killerex, one of the chemicals Montréal uses to spray its parks.

At the time, Bourque told Lévesque-René that Montréal only uses "natural weed-killing chemicals."

Unfortunately for Bourque, the sight of city employees spraying parks while dressed in protective suits poignantly contradicted his statements.

Boskey asserted that Bourque was "either being misled or lying."

Since then, Bourque and his administration have continued to talk circles around the issue. In July, Jean Jacques Lancourt, the chief superintendent for park maintenance, tried to allay fears expressed by parents by saying that the pesticides used were "less harmful than table salt."

The simple fact is that pesticides are being used in Montréal's gardens and parks. Boskey is especially concerned that the city is using these chemicals without giving any notification to ensure that children are kept away.

Boskey commented that it was small wonder that "parents freaked."

While Bourque admitted to using eight pesticides in the statement issued last week, he maintained that they were either non-toxic or posed only a "very weak risk."

Bourque wrote that Mon-

tréal, as "a city of 800 parks, 450 000 trees and a million flowers," needs to use pesticides to assure the "well being" of the vegetation.



Elyse Russell, who campaigned for a summer-time ban of pesticides in Dollard Des Ormeaux in the West Island, said that Bourque's reticence on the issue is particularly disturbing because he is giving people "a false sense of assurance."

Russell became involved in the struggle against pesticides after her two-year-old son became violently ill while playing in a park that had been treated with a chemical pesticide.

Dr. Meryl Hammond, founder of the West Island-based Citizens for Alternatives to Pesticides (CAP), also found Bourque's comments unbelievable. "Anyone who has worked in horticulture for as long as Bourque knows the effects of pesticides," Hammond was referring to the fact that Bourque was head of the Botanical Gardens for many years before becoming mayor.

What people often forget is that despite this environmentalist image, Bourque defended using chemical pesticides before City Council's Environmental Commission in 1992.

### Dangerous jargon

Bourque is not much different from other politicians who use scientific jargon to leave citizens in the dark.

Hammond pointed to the ease with which big companies and governments fool the consumer. "People assume if a product is for sale, it is 'safe.' They assume that the government has checked it out."

But Hammond found that this was not the case. She explained that Health Canada simply "rubber stamps" the

products that chemical companies like Chem Lawn say are safe. These companies then put the products on store shelves, leading people to believe they have been critically examined.

The labels describing the level of toxicity are also misleading.

Russell warned that labels only describe the active agents in pesticides, ignoring their 'inert' components which can be more dangerous.

Russell said that these facts are "kept secret by the multi-billion dollar industry [which controls the pesticide market]." Interestingly, pesticides fall under the pharmaceuticals industry, the most powerful industry in Canada.

Russell decried the 'safe' labels, saying that not only are the inert ingredients in the chemicals often "carcinogenic," but "the origins of most insecticides are nerve gases that were used in World War II."

2,4-D can be traced to the deadly 'agent orange' of Vietnam war infamy.

### Killing ourselves over weeds

Russell commented that "the idea of having a whole lawn where every blade of grass is the same is ridiculous. Our children's health is at risk."

Dr. June Irwin, a dermatologist from Hudson, was part of the lobby that obtained a complete ban of pesticides in her West Island community and called pesticides "poisons".

Irwin pointed to two of the chemicals on the list, Roundup and Killex, saying that "these chemicals are linked with leukemia, lymphoma and brain cancer in children, as well as defeminisation and demasculisation."

Irwin said that everybody is at risk but especially children, the aged and people who have weakened immune systems. However, Irwin complained that "if you are sick with pesticides, it is possible that no one will make the connection," because there are not enough facilities for testing in Canada.

Irwin herself has been sending blood to Texas for testing for the past 15 years. "The medical world here is not routinely ready to treat pesticide toxicity, neither do we have records of people's exposure," said Irwin.

She stressed the importance of knowing what is in people's blood. "We are putting toxic stuff in our blood and we are

not even allowed to know what has been absorbed..." Irwin continued.

Both Hammond and Irwin argued that it was imperative that pesticides be considered poisons and be banned.

"Dandelions never killed anyone," said Hammond "And now we are killing ourselves trying to kill them."

### A growing movement

After her son became ill, Russell began to investigate pesticides. She discovered that there was no lack of evidence that pesticides are dangerous and unnecessary. Russell stated that the evidence is out there and should be accessed.

Recently, people have begun to tap into this information.

Since 1989, 15 towns on the West Island have banned pesticides either wholly or in part.

Hammond said that new chapters of CAP have been opening up across Canada since 1992 as citizens become more aware of the problem.

The fact is, said Hammond, "pesticides are becoming extremely resistant," and alternatives are becoming more appealing. People are beginning to push for the use of compost, laundry soap, or just the old fashioned way of manually pulling weeds.

Hammond has recently completed a book entitled *Pesticide By-Laws: Why We Need Them and How to Get Them*.

While Irwin has been putting pressure on the Québec government to create legislation banning pesticide use, Hammond has gone to the federal level. She met with federal Health Minister Diane Marleau earlier this year, but to no avail. The Minister refused to hear Hammond's

concerns, choosing to put faith in the current standards.

Not discouraged, Hammond said she feels the best route is a community-by-community approach. Smaller communities lie beyond the clutches of the "powerful lobbyists the chemical pesticide industry employs to persuade officials to use their products," reasoned Hammond.

### What to do with Bourque

Unfortunately, said Hammond, "Montréal was left out of the loop" of communities working against pesticides.

She went on to say that getting Bourque to come clean on the issue will require creativity.

Bourque's historical insistence that Montréal pesticides are safe gives him little room to compromise. "This Mayor has dug himself into a hole. If he backs down now, he will look like a loser," observed Hammond.

The question is, why did Bourque take the stand he did?

His years at the Botanical Gardens, his environmental image and the endless information provided by opposition members and concerned citizens this summer make his stand a blatant contradiction.

Some say Bourque, the "Green" mayor, is pushing pesticides as a quick fix for a green city. But it is becoming increasingly apparent that there is no logic behind Bourque's decisions. As Sam Boskey commented, "It is simply just irresponsible."

Meryl Hammond's book "Pesticide By-Laws: Why We Need Them and How to Get Them" is available for \$20 plus \$5 mailing costs from 20 Sunny Acres in Baie D'Urfé H9X 3B6

## eventseventseventseventseventsevents

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

• **United Nations Students Association of McGill (UN-SAM)** holds its first meeting in the Union cafeteria, 18h30.  
• **The McGill Newman Centre** holds a welcoming week International Pot-Luck supper, Newman Center, 18h. Bring your favourite dish. Info 398-4106.

• **Pugwash meeting.** Gordon Edwards, president of the Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility, will lead a discussion group on the French nuclear testing. Burnside Hall, room 305, 18h.

**Thursday, September 21**

• **McGill Students for Liter-**

**acy** will be holding their first general meeting at 18h in the Union Building Cafeteria. New volunteers welcome. Info call 398-5100

**Saturday, September 23**

• **The McGill Newman Centre** is having a Friendship Day at Camp Kinkorra. Meet at the Newman Center, 8h45. Info call 398-4106.

**Sunday, September 24**

• **The McGill Newman Centre** is having a softball game at the Reservoir. Meet at Newman Centre, 12h. Info call 398-4106.



# A note on our student body

BY JACQUELINE REIS

McGill will always be different from other Canadian universities, not only for its chicken-coop architecture, raucous times at the Three Bares and personable administrators, but also for its status as an English university in a French province.

Like other Canadian universities, a large number (around 57 per cent of new registrants in McGill's case) of McGill's students come from within the province. Unlike other universities, many of these students' mother tongue is French. Why these students choose to study in their second language varies from student to student.

"It's an opportunity to learn English more and to practice... I'm very happy I came. For my job, I will be able to go anywhere - Canada or the US," explained Patricia Côté, a U3 occupational therapy student from Trois-Rivières.

Michel Paquet, a Master's student in physiology from Québec City, said it was the program that attracted him to McGill more than a desire to study in a second language.

"At francophone universities, the health programs were... too broad," he explained.

Paquet added that he thought McGill's development as an English university in Québec was natural.

"It's not odd, because there's a big anglophone community in Montréal and the founders of McGill were anglophone and were British," said Paquet.

Although francophones have made up roughly 20 per cent of McGill's student body for the last ten years, Pascale Anglede, the Students' Society's French commissioner, fears that these figures may be dipping in individual faculties.

In the 1993-94 school year, the Faculties of Arts and Religious Studies enrolled 10.9 per cent and 9.2 per cent francophones respectively, while the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy's incoming class was 44.9 per cent francophone.

"McGill should be working on promoting more, like going to francophone CEGEPs," said Anglede.

Faculties, like students, have their own reasons for wanting students from Québec, though not necessarily francophones.

Ginette Lamontagne, director of Government Relations in the James Administration Building, explained how medical admissions work at McGill.

"Since we're working under a public health care system, it is believed by the government... that every doctor has an impact on the cost of Medicare as a whole. By regulating the number of doctors graduating, it will regulate [the cost of Medicare]," said Lamontagne.

"We want a very diverse and heterogeneous [student body]," said Dr. Abraham Fuks of the McGill Cancer Centre. Fuks added that the Faculty is able to admit out-of-province students so long as they agree to practice elsewhere.

"This way of controlling student admissions does not exist in other areas. Medicine is a special case.

They're not seen as students, they're seen as future medical care providers," stated Lamontagne.

Lamontagne is only partially right when she says that medicine is a special case. Insofar as it is the only school in which the provincial government tells the admissions board how many doctors to enroll and how many to allow from out of province, the Faculty of Medicine is unique.

But of the 24 students at the Faculty of Dentistry, roughly 80 per cent are Quebecers, not because of gov-

ernment regulations but according to an "unwritten rule."

Robert Faith, chairman of the admissions committee at the Faculty of Dentistry, explained that the Faculty is composed of a high percentage of francophones "because we feel we have a responsibility to the province of Québec," even though dentists do not directly affect Medicare costs.

"No, they [the Québec government] haven't told us, but it's kind of an unwritten rule," said Faith, who

added that he thought the arrangement was "fair."

Despite the Faculty of Dentistry's concerns with being "fair" to the government, neither the government nor individual departments seem to have taken an interest in francophone admissions in other areas.

"There's no expression of specific government interest in other areas," said Mariela Johansen, director of admissions.

As for McGill's position as an English university in a French prov-

ince, no-one seems to want to change its predominantly English character.

"McGill is already offering a lot of courses in French. I don't know what the demand would be [for more]. McGill is an English university. I think that's a good thing," said Anglede.

"We're an English-language university, and that's the product we have to offer... Students will often come in [for that reason], and we can't disappoint them," said Lamontagne.

# FRANCOPHONE ADMISSIONS AT MCGILL

## Of religion and human rights:

### Keynote speaker emphasises respect and choice



**SPEAKER ABDULLAHI AHMED AN-NA'IM ADDRESSES CONFERENCE**

BY BRENDA MERCER

Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na'im does not view religion and human rights as mutually exclusive concepts.

"To me, Islam means peace and respect for human rights," said An-Na'im, keynote speaker at an international conference on religious extremism and human rights held this week at McGill.

An-Na'im, identified by Irwin Cotler of the Faculty of Law as "perhaps the preeminent scholar/activist on this topic," began by clarifying the notion of peace as it pertains to questions of religion and human rights. The problem is not the eradication of conflict and violence, he said, but rather "the exclusivity of religion, the permanence of conflict, and the mediation of human rights."

A gulf exists between human rights advocates and religious groups, An-Na'im told the audience of about 200 in the Faculty of Law's Moot Court. "Religion is sometimes dismissed as irrelevant, if not an active

impediment" by many human rights advocates, he said.

An-Na'im noted, however, that there are legitimate concerns about the contribution of many religions to such abuses. While religion provides a sense of identification and belonging, it often does so by drawing lines between 'us' and 'them', 'in-groups' and 'out-groups'. It makes distinctions between the "moral community" and the "political community," he said. It is this practice of exclusivity and of devaluing others that An-Na'im claims can make religion "a breeding ground of intolerance."

The solution, he asserted, is to rethink concepts of both religion and human rights within a perspective that allows for differences while acknowledging the validity of both the religious and human rights

For one thing, An-Na'im suggested, people can recognise that there are many sources of identity, not only those stemming from religion or na-

tionality. "To be a Muslim is one identity I have, but I am also African, also Sudanese, also a lawyer, also a human rights advocate," he explained. Overlapping identifications like this can counteract the divisive effects of religion without putting anyone in the position of denying or devaluing the importance of their religious identity.

As well, An-Na'im expressed that it is important to recognise that in most religions, despite the opinions of some human rights advocates, much of what is taken to be opposed to the realisation of human rights results from human choices and human interpretation. Using the example of Islam, he pointed out that while some aspects of Islamic law may seem discriminatory or damaging, there are many contradictions within scriptures and texts, and it is up to the community to determine how they practice their religion. "There was never a time when Islam was purely in the abstract... From day one, Islam has been what Muslims take it to be... because of this, choice exists."

Concepts of human rights also present opportunities for interpretation and choice. The notion of a 'universal' concept of human rights is possible, An-Na'im asserted, but it must be cross-culturally conceived and rooted. Most importantly, "uni-

versality cannot be proclaimed; it must be constructed through discourse and dialogue." Achieving consensus on a standard of human rights is important and would have advantages over a unilaterally conceived standard. Parties would be more likely to adhere to something which they had a hand in constructing, said An-Na'im.

By rethinking the role and nature of religion and of human rights, and establishing links between these two camps, An-Na'im suggested that progress can be made. The obstacles that must be overcome are formidable, but not insurmountable.

"Taking as a given the firmness of conflict, the firmness and centrality of religion, given the tension between the moral and political communities, given the openness of religion to manipulation," there is still hope for substantial improvement if academics, policy-makers, religious leaders and advocates are willing to explore the options and risk contradicting traditional ideas and interpretations, said An-Na'im.

"I have presented to you," An-Na'im admitted, "a vision of Islam not shared by many Muslims and a vision of human rights not shared by many human rights activists. But the improbability of acceptance is no reason not to engage in the dialogue, not to explore the options and possibilities."

*An-Na'im is the former executive director of Human Rights Watch/Africa and a law professor at Atlanta's Emory University.*

DAILY PHOTO BY CAMERON BOOTH



# Empowering

## NEW CONTRACEPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES AFFECT NATIVE WOMEN

BY KAREN HAWKINS

WAGNER, S.D.—Reports on the status and control of women's reproductive health on native reservations in South Dakota may help feed a battle for control over fertility.

The uses and abuses of two new long-term contraceptive methods for women have been discussed in native communities since the methods' approval earlier this decade.

In January 1993, a roundtable discussion on family planning and reproductive health was convened in Talequah, Oklahoma, home of the Cherokee Nation, to examine native perspectives.

The report investigated the social acceptability of contraceptive use in native communities, the role of the Indian Health Service (IHS) as the only health care provider in most native communities and the history of forced sterilisation of minority women in the United States.

Since then, communities have been sharing information with their members and with each other through briefings on meetings such as the one in Talequah and through local and regional newsletters.

The Talequah briefing discussed the probable prevalence of traditional herbal contraceptive use. However, Wisconsin's *Lac du Flambeau* News questioned the possibility of this practice in December 1994. When a Depo Provera user was asked if she knew of any traditional Native American methods of birth control, she "shook her head no, then laughed, recalling her grandparents had 14 children."

Upjohn and Wyeth, the companies that manufacture these provider-controlled hormonal birth control methods, and the methods' advocates in the medical community insist that the drugs can be a source of empowerment for women, allowing them to control their fertility and thus their lives.

The general debate about the merits and dangers of Depo Provera, also known as "the

**The general debate about the merits and dangers of Depo Provera and Norplant has generally been over its potential to empower versus the ease of abuse and coercion by advocates of population control measures, resulting in fertility control among minority and low-income populations.**

Shot," and Norplant, the birth-control implant, has generally been over its potential to empower versus the ease of abuse and coercion by advocates of population control measures, resulting in fertility control among minority and low-income populations.

What the companies cannot efface is the shameful record of widespread eugenics and population control programmes by the American government, some of them inspired by the Nazis, targeting Native Americans.

These programmes continued into the 1970s.

Along with residential schools and evangelising, they were part and parcel of a wider American ideology to assimilate and wipe-out native culture and communities.

The IHS unit on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation in central South Dakota was called "the Butcher Shop" in the 1970s because of the many non-consensual sterilisations performed on native women still groggy after childbirth. In 1975 alone, over 25 000 native women were sterilised at IHS clinics, the BIA has admitted.

And now, with the advent of Norplant and the Depo Provera shot, native women once again are forced to entrust their fertility to the IHS, and indeed to the drugs themselves.

In addition, the safety of both Norplant and Depo Provera is still questionable. It is difficult for native women to have control over or even access to medical treatment.

The staff turnover at federal medical facilities such as IHS is extremely high, and the staff is always overworked and often inaccessible to the populations they serve. One South Dakota IHS clinic serves an area half the size of New Jersey and no longer has inpatient facilities because of budget cuts.

A former IHS health aide described what she called "coercion" on the part of field

nurses in convincing native women to get tubal ligations. The nurses visit women at home and talk to them about the difficulties of having many children, possibly being a single mother and living on assistance.

The aide was particularly concerned about women with substance abuse problems being pressured by nurses to get sterilised instead of being offered treatment. If a woman submits to the pressure, a tubal ligation will be performed free of charge by IHS. But undergoing substance abuse treatment requires more commitment on the part of the woman. The availability of such treatment is limited and not emphasised or, more importantly, supported by the IHS.

A considerable number of accidental pregnancies while using Depo Provera have been reported in a preliminary study done in South Dakota and have raised many questions about the effectiveness and safety of long-term birth control methods. IHS has been slow to respond to these issues and appears indifferent to the suggested medical protocols for the drugs.

Over 80 per cent of the women in the South Dakota study were IHS clients. Though IHS guidelines state that Depo Provera should only be prescribed when alternative methods cannot be used, almost 41 per cent of the clients claimed that Depo was recommended over other forms of contraception.

A "disturbingly low percentage" of these women, according to the study, were informed of the possible long-term effects of Depo Provera,

especially the unknown risks of fetal exposure in utero and the increased risk of certain kinds of cancer.

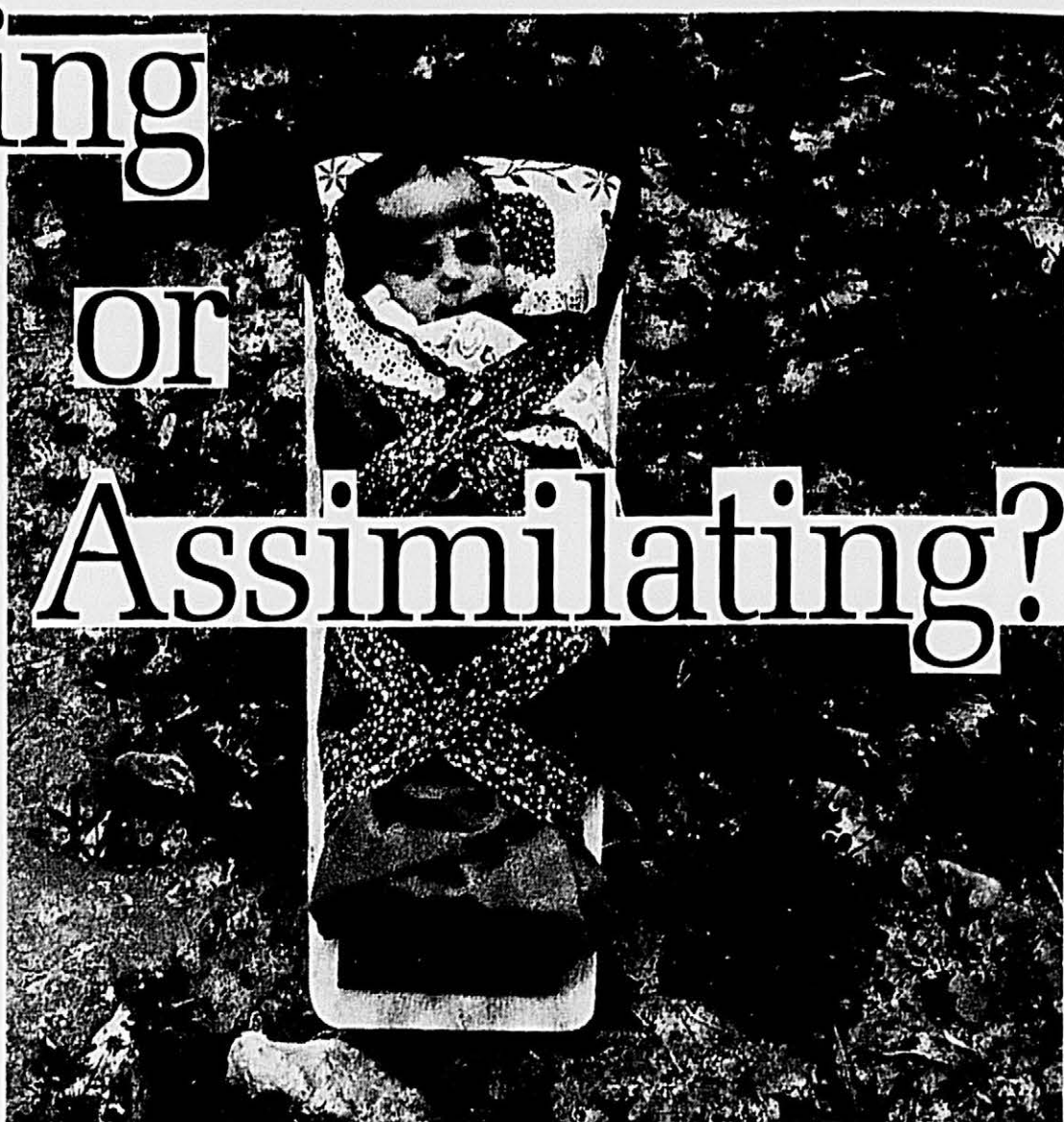
In several instances, the IHS has dismissed the claims of women who claimed to have miscarried as a result of Depo Provera.

There has also been heated discussion about the necessity of informed consent. Dr. Kessler of the Food and Drug Administration has said that "all long-acting birth control methods should be used by women only after a written consent process."

One IHS worker said they had considered a consent form, but the same consent form would then be necessary for all forms of birth control. Others at IHS have asserted that simply coming to the clinic seeking birth control implies consent. Only one IHS client reported signing a consent form.

At present, there is no uniform protocol for dispensing long-term birth control at IHS units. User testimony, the South Dakota study, and studies done in developing countries where Depo Provera has been widely used indicate that there is an immediate need for a specific and uniform protocol for counseling and imparting information and a written consent form to ensure informed consent, define responsibility and keep control of reproductive health decisions in the hands of native women.

*Karen Hawkins, a journalist, works on the Yankton Sioux reservation.*





## CLASSIFIED ADS

**Ads may be placed** through the Daily Business Office, Room B-07, University Centre, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication.) **McGill Students & Staff** (with valid ID): \$4.55 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$4.00 per day. **General Public:** \$5.70 per day, or \$4.85 per day for 3 or more consecutive days. Extra charges may apply, and prices do not include applicable GST (7%) or PST (6.5%). Full payment should accompany your advertising order and may be made in cash or by personal cheque (for amounts over \$20 only). For more information, please visit our office or call 398-6790. **WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE. PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD CAREFULLY WHEN IT APPEARS IN THE PAPER.** The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damages due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

### 1-HOUSING

**3½ & 5½ clean,** furnished, sunny, quiet, with hardwood flr. parking available. Near restaurants, library, grocery store, St Michel metro & buses. \$650/mth (5½) \$375/mth (3½) 843-5703.

**3½ unheated condo** to sublet—6 mths or more for Nov. 1st. Corner CDN?Q Mary. Semi-furnished/near metro, bus, stores. Jacuzzi. \$475/mth (neg.) Ref. pls. 731-9329/7283.

**Luxury condo sacrifice!** Must sell. Large, bright, 2 bedroom. 3 mins. to McGill, RVH, MNI. top floor, panoramic views, oak doors, marble fireplace, tall ceilings, renovated. Kathy Osgood 932-9043.

**Loft to share.** Closed room. Bleue and Rene Levesque. Air cond. All incl. 300 a month. 393-9071.

### 3-HELP WANTED

**Attention Students.** Earn lots of cash, coordinating promotional campaigns for a marketing company. Full and part time positions available. Call Derek 360-3558.

**Attention McGill Students!** International health & nutrition company now hiring FT/PT no experience needed. Call 849-4679.

**Choral singers wanted.** Professional and volunteer sopranos, altos, tenors and basses for Shaare Zion Synagogue choir 481-5737.

**Mother's helper wanted** part time days. 731-8609.

### 4-HELP AVAILABLE

**Lose Weight Now!** Wanted, 30 people to lose 10-30 pounds in one month. Weight loss is 100% guaranteed with the use of all natural products. Call 849-4679.

### 5-TYPING SERVICES

**Success to all students.** WordPerfect 5.1. Term papers, resumés, applications, transcription of micro-cassettes. Editing of grammar. 27 yrs. experience. \$1.75/D.S.P., 7 days/week. Campus/Peel/Sherbrooke. Paulette/Roxanne 288-9638/288-0016.

**McGill College/Sherbrooke** quality word processing of term papers, theses, resumés, bilingual. Also diskette laser printing at 600 dpi. Ginette 848-0423.

**Typing, comprehensive editing** of rough/final drafts by experienced editor. Very fast; reasonable rates. Laser printer. HVM Editing 485-9275.

**Word-processing term papers,** theses, reports, etc. WordPerfect 5.1. Laser printer. Fast, professional service. 10 years experience close to McGill. Brigitte 282-0301.

### 6-SERVICES OFFERED

**Experienced editor/proof-reader/** writer/tutor. Help with your student papers, theses, manuscripts, resumés translation Spanish/French /English. Call Marian 765-9804 7 Days/week

**Lamination & Mounting** for posters, photos, diplomas etc... Lowest prices, quality work. Custom work available. Call Russ 683-5426.

### 7-FOR SALE

**Computer, 386, color monitor,** deskjet 500 printer, keyboard, mouse, cables. Like new. Only \$1200. Call Roy. 495-4552.

**Macintosh LCII 4/80,** extended keyboard, 12" b/w monitor. \$750. 398-7405.

**Learn French with** Campion Language Kit. 8 tapes & 3 grammar/exercise books. \$100 273-1883.

**Desk, loveseat, shelves,** lamps, bed, bicycle, typewriter. Excellent condition. 273-1883

### 10-RIDES/TICKETS

**Concert tickets available** for Elton John, Collective Soul R. Plant/Page, Ozzie Osbourne concerts. Also Canadians hockey games. Info 362-9302 Joe.

### 12- PERSONAL

**Women save money; save trees** The Keeper: a menstrual cup. Safe, clean, comfortable. 100% rubber, no bleach. Acc. for sale by Health Canada. Lasts for 10 years. \$45 (3 mo money-back guar.) 843-3465.

**Wanted Surrogate Mother:** Anglo French couple need surrogate mother to have child. All expenses paid plus stipend. Send data and contact info to: P.O. Box 26 Las Cruces New Mexico USA 88004.

### 13-LESSONS/COURSES

**Come and practice** your French with Francophones, Club Half+Half 465-9128.

### Singing lessons

private lessons with experienced, bilingual teacher. Beginner to advanced. Classical, Broadway, pop. Studio near downtown. 484-5407 evenings.

**Singing lessons, experienced** prof, MA voice interp. All ages, levels and styles. Audition prep and rep. guidance. Special att. on breathing and focus. 489-1363.

**For exciting piano** lessons with experienced, enthusiastic, music-making teacher. Call 737-1392.

**Piano lessons by** Russian accompanist and teacher of music. Fall & winter sessions. Cote St-Catherine metro. Reasonable rates. Rachel 733-0865.

### 14-NOTICES

**Artists Wanted.** First annual NDG Outdoor Art Festival in NDG park Sept.23&24. Art show & sale. For registration info call: 483-2866.

**THE DAILY: DO NOT EXCEED RECOMMENDED DOSAGE EXCEPT ON THE ADVICE OF YOUR PHYSICIAN.**

## CRUISE SHIPS HIRING

**Students Needed!**

Earn up to \$2,000+ per month working for Cruise Ships or Land-Tour Companies. World Travel (Hawaii, Mexico, the Caribbean, etc.). Seasonal and Full-Time employment available. No exp. necessary. For info. call:

Cruise Employment Services  
(206) 634-0468 ext. C40051



## TRAVEL ABROAD & WORK!

• Teach Conversational English in Asia •

Make up to \$25-\$45 per hour teaching basic conversational English abroad. Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea. Positions also available in Thailand, China, and Indonesia. Many employers provide room & board plus other benefits. No teaching background or Asian languages required. For more information, call one of our representatives at *International Employment Group*:



INTERNATIONAL  
EMPLOYMENT  
GROUP

(206)632-1146  
ext. J40051

**McGILL CAMPUS REC**

## Department of Athletics CAMPUS RECREATION FALL 1995

Omigosh!  
Instructional registration  
has begun!

### Instructional Athletics



Courses offered in:

- AQUATICS
- FITNESS
- OUTDOOR PURSUITS
- DANCE
- MARTIAL ARTS
- RACQUETS
- VARIA

Register now in office G-35 Currie Gym 08:30-18:30 hrs.  
Most classes begin the week of September 18, 1995.

## INTRAMURAL HOCKEY

### REGISTRATION

DATE: Wednesday, September 20, 1995  
TIME: 08:30 to 17:00 hrs.  
PLACE: Campus Recreation Office  
CURRIE GYMNASIUM

Registration is limited to the first 66 teams and is on a first come, first served basis.

### CAPTAINS' MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, September 20, 1995  
TIME: 18:30 hrs.  
PLACE: Room 408  
CURRIE GYMNASIUM

All teams MUST be represented at the Captains' Meeting. A team that is not represented will NOT be included in the league.

Campus Recreation Office (G-35)  
Sir Arthur Currie Gymnasium  
475 Pine Avenue West

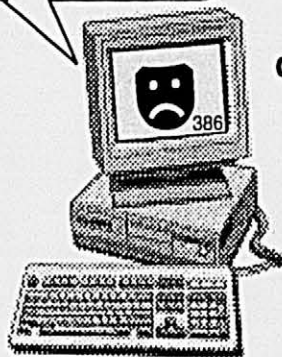
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 398-7011



# INFORMATION • 398-7011



DON'T THROW  
ME OUT!  
CALL DOME  
FOR AN  
UPGRADE



CD-Rom, Multimedia  
Memory, Disk Drives  
Monitors, Software

Why pay big bucks for  
today's technology?  
Upgrade your system  
**FOR LESS.**

Or bring in your old  
computer for a credit.

### UPGRADE

486DX2 66 = \$238.50  
486DX4 75 = \$378.55  
486DX4 100 = \$447.60

P75 = \$685.  
P90 = \$888.  
P100 = \$1092.  
P120 = \$1325.  
P133 = \$1457.



I FEEL SO  
UP TO DATE  
SINCE WE  
WENT TO  
DOME!

Service • Sales • Upgrades  
Used Equipment Available  
McGill's Affordable Alternative

COMPUTER



1175 Crescent St. Suite 301  
(RENE LEVESQUE)  
393-8591 fax: 874-9456



# Le Baron

ONE BLOCK WEST OF  
CREMAZIE METRO

8601 St-Laurent Blvd,  
Montreal, Que. H2P 2M9 Tel.: (514) 381-4231

**NOW AVAILABLE!**  
NEW! Fall/Winter Fashions for the Great Outdoors  
Name Brand Products at DISCOUNT PRICES



Visit our newly renovated CAMPING department



Present your **Student ID Card**  
and receive our **Club Le Baron discount**



## EPSON

### ActionNote 650 Mono

486DX2-50MHz  
4MB Ram, 260MB HDD **\$1849**

### ActionNote 660C Colour

486DX2-66MHz  
8MB Ram, 340MB HDD **\$2649**

### PerfectOffice

For Win 3.0  
STD Educ. **\$185**

### MS Office

For Win 4.2  
STD Educ. **\$185**

## PENTIUM-75

8Mb RAM, 3.5' FD,  
850Mb HDD, 1Mb SVGA PCI  
14' SVGA Colour .28mm NI  
101 Bil. Keyboard, Mini-Tower  
2 Year Parts &  
Labour Warranty **\$1669**

## Canon

### BJ-100

Bubblejet  
printer

**\$279**



### QuadSpeed CD-ROM

**4X \$219**

## ACCESS Info-Tech

# BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIALS

While quantities last, with this flyer only!  
All prices are cash, certified cheque or interac!

## 486DX2-66

4Mb RAM, 3.5' Drive 1.44Mb,  
420Mb HDD, 1Mb SVGA VLB Card  
14' SVGA Col. Monitor .28mm NI  
101 Bil. Keyboard, Mini-Tower  
2 Year Warranty  
**\$1159**

## Formatted Disks

3.5" HD, 1.44Mb  
**3 Boxes of 10 \$18**

## EPSON



ActionLaser 1100  
Advanced Laser  
Printing At A Personal  
Laser Price! **\$539**

ActionLaser 1400  
The Best Value In True  
600 dpi Laser Printing! **\$679**

## Soundblaster

**16 BIT  
Stereo**

**\$99**



**Super Savings!!  
on Hard Drives**

**1.08GB HDD...\$319**

**420MB HDD...\$199**

## Fax/Modems

**28.8KB Int.....\$199**

**14.4KB Int.....\$69**

**14.4KB Voice.....\$79**

**96/24 Int.....\$39**



**Formatted  
DC2120  
Tapes \$19**



**CONNER  
420MB Tape  
Back-up....\$199**

## USA WORK PERMITS

We can help Canadian  
citizens increase their  
chances of receiving USA  
work permits. Also, U.S.  
Immigration and related  
business matters.

**B. TOBEN Associates  
(U.S. Lawyers)**

**288-3896 ANYTIME**

## OPTOMETRIST

- Eyes Examined
- Eye Glasses (2 for 1)
- Contact Lenses (from \$89)
- Student Discount

**Dr. David Kwavnick, O.D.**  
1535 Sherbrooke St. W.  
(corner Guy)

**933-8700**

## St-Mathieu Dental Centre



discount for  
McGill students  
on dental services

1801 de Maisonneuve W.,  
corner St-Mathieu  
Suite 730



Tel.: 989-7245

Exit St-Mathieu



**PLEASE  
RECYCLE  
THIS COPY  
OF THE DAILY**